

The Spirit of Missions;

*EDITED FOR

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS

Of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America.

PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.

VOL. II.

OCTOBER, 1837.

No. 10.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DOMESTIC COMMITTEE.

MONTHLY ABSTRACT.

September 1, 1837. Special meeting.—Mr. Swords was called to the Chair.

The Secretary and General Agent stated that the annual Convention of Ohio would be held at Columbus, in that state, on the 14th instant, and, as the cause of Domestic Missions had not been officially presented in any part of that diocese since the General Convention of 1835, he suggested the propriety of his visiting some of the parishes therein, and being present at the Convention.

Whereupon, on motion,

Resolved—That the Secretary and General Agent be advised to visit some portions of Ohio, and be present at the ensuing Convention of that diocese.

The Rev. John P. Lathrop, of Massachusetts, was appointed a Missionary in Illinois.

The stated meetings of September 4th and 18th were, by resolutions, dispensed with.

The Secretary and General Agent informed the Committee that, in compliance with their advice, he purposed leaving the city on the morning of the 4th for Ohio, and returning to be with them, if it pleased God to preserve him, on Monday, the 2d of October.

* In the absence of the Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee, the Foreign department of the Spirit of Missions is edited by the Assistant Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOREIGN COMMITTEE.

MONTHLY ABSTRACT.

Tuesday evening, September 19, 1837.—Stated meeting. The Rev. Dr. Milnor in the Chair.

The Assistant Secretary reported and read three letters from the Secretary and General Agent, communicating his proceedings in the prosecution of his agency, in the state of Rhode Island. A warm and decided interest in Foreign Missions had been generally manifested, both on the part of the clergy and the people.

The Assistant Secretary farther reported the writing of a number of letters, and the subjects to which they referred. The Spirit of Missions for October was in press, and the editing of the Foreign Department nearly completed.

The Sub-Committee on Africa, reported on the subject of further supplies for the Mission to Cape Palmas, principally for the completion of the Mission buildings, which were ordered to be purchased, and sent in the fall expedition of the Maryland Colonization Society, which is expected to sail from Baltimore about the middle of October.

Several interesting letters were read and disposed of, as required, among which were accounts from the Rev. Messrs. Payne and Minor of their voyage out, and of their arrival in perfect health on the field of their future labors.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

DOMESTIC.

MAINE.

FROM THE RT. REV. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, D. D.

Boston, July 11, 1837.

There has been no time when aid from the funds of the Committee extended to the eastern diocese would be of more benefit to our church and to religion, than the present year. Bangor in Maine is a very important station, and is now in a critical state. We are exceedingly desirous to find a suitable Missionary, in which it is my earnest desire that the Committee will aid us. The labors of an able, faithful minister of our Church stationed there, would, in all human appearance, be instrumental in raising up several churches in that and other parts of the Eastern Diocese. Its vicinity to a British province will no doubt facilitate the work. We are now at a great expense and no small inconvenience, constantly supplying the Church there from Boston, and by those whose la-

bors are needed here. But the importance of continuing service there, and making this last effort to save that beautiful church, would justify greater expense, and almost any efforts. It is earnestly requested that the Committee will extend to that station all the aid which the state of their funds will admit. If we succeed in saving the Church, and establishing permanent service there, missionary aid will not probably be *long* needed.

We are also very desirous of finding a suitable missionary for Augusta, the capital of that state. Those two stations being well filled, we might well hope for a rapid growth of our Church in Maine.

WISCONSIN TERRITORY.

FROM THE REV. R. F. CADLE, LATE MISSIONARY AT NAVARINO,
(GREEN BAY.)

New-York, July 3, 1837.

In the early part of April, I received an invitation from the Vestry of Christ Church, Green Bay, to continue connected with that church; which I respectfully declined accepting, from a regard for consistency, and from a belief that I could be employed elsewhere more satisfactorily to myself, and that the services of some other clergyman at Navarino would be more useful to the congregation in that settlement than mine could be. I have been happy in learning recently that the vestry have concluded to build Christ Church in Navarino, and that probably in a short time this good work would be commenced. This station is an important one, and is now requesting, at the hands of the Domestic Committee, the benefit of a supply. I would be much gratified if a suitable clergyman should be appointed to labor at it. The attendants on the services of the Church are numerous. And I believe that, if the congregation in Navarino should shortly have the advantage of Missionary care, its growth would be rapid.

I visited Fort Winnebago in April last, in consequence of an invitation to such effect. While there I received an invitation from the officers to remain, acting as clergyman and teacher; which, after due consideration, I felt obliged to decline. A Sunday school of about 16 children was superintended and taught at this fort by two ladies. If the former application for the services of a Missionary should be renewed, Fort Winnebago would furnish a field for great usefulness.

While preparing for my journey to Fort Winnebago, I concluded to visit, if possible, Mineral Point and Carville. In this resolution my principal object was to attempt the organization of congregations at these stations, with a view to their being represented at a Convention proposed by the Vestry of Christ Church, to be held at Green Bay on the 29th of May. I was also desirous of examining the Missionary stations in the Territory pre-

viously to my application for an appointment. I did not reach Carville, but spent several days at Mineral Point. This latter place is said to contain six or eight hundred inhabitants, and there is a considerable population in the immediately-adjoining country. Several persons expressed their wishes to me for the appointment of a Missionary. There are some Episcopalians in the village, and the number of persons disposed to attend public worship is large. The only congregation as yet formed there (so far as my knowledge extends) is one of the Methodist Communion. I think that a clergyman of our Church would meet with encouragement in his labors at this station, and that the present is a favorable period for the establishing of the Church at it.

MICHIGAN.

FROM THE REV. A. S. HOLLISTER, MISSIONARY AT TROY AND ROMEO.

Troy, June 30, 1837.

I have turned my attention of late more to the English Episcopalians in the vicinity of Pontiac, and am encouraged to hope that a respectable church may within a year or two be established in that important and flourishing village. I have officiated there three times on Sundays; twice by request in the Presbyterian Church, which is the only house of worship in that place, and once in the court-house. I have found some few members of the Church, and many others are favorably disposed towards it. The congregations were numerous. I have also officiated several times to very grateful and attentive congregations in a private house on the bank of Orchard Lake, a beautiful and romantic spot, where I was agreeably surprised to find, a goodly number of Christian people, mostly emigrants from Scotland and England; several of whom seem strongly attached to the principles of our Church.

Our building is in a course of rapid completion, and is expected to be ready for consecration before the first of October next. I must not omit to mention the liberality of one gentleman in Waterford at the head of a large family, who opens his house for public worship under circumstances which have induced me to officiate there once a fortnight. Many of his neighbors attend, and we have an interesting and attentive congregation.

INDIANA.

FROM THE REV. A. H. LAMON, MISSIONARY AT EVANSVILLE.

Evansville, June 19, 1837.

Our congregation is good and gradually increasing; the responsive part of the Liturgy is well sustained and the preaching of the Gospel is listened to with apparent respect and attention. Oh! that I could add, that the truth was received in the love of

it, and that many were asking with seriousness and interest "What must I do to be saved?" But there is in this place, as all around us, a lamentable indifference on the subject of personal and practical religion. Few indeed seem to realize the fact that, they are individually interested in the Gospel Message. I trust that those who are so nobly sustaining the Missionaries of the Cross will accompany their contributions with their most ardent prayers to God, that the blessed Gospel may have free course and be glorified in the salvation of sinners and in building up Christians on their most holy faith. It is true that your Missionary in Evansville has much to encourage him, as far as the size of his congregation is concerned, and in the liberality also manifested by our citizens in fitting up a neat and commodious place of worship: but still he regrets that so few are added to the Church among us.

Besides the services of the Church each Lord's day, I have a weekly evening lecture—a Bible class and Sunday school which cannot fail, under the divine blessing, to produce a favorable state of things among us.

FROM THE REV. M. HOYT, MISSIONARY AT CRAWFORDSVILLE.

Crawfordsville, June 20, 1837.

In my last report I was enabled to state that the vestry had determined to proceed at once to the erection of a church edifice, and that the contract for the enclosing it had been given out. I can now state, that considerable progress in the building of the same has been made. On Thursday, the 8th of the present month, the corner-stone was laid by the Rt. Rev. Jackson Kemper, the Rev. Mr. Johnson being present. Since then the frame has been raised, and the workmen are now engaged in enclosing it.

The communion had during the quarter been administered twice—the first time by myself, when but two came forward to receive the holy ordinance—the last time by the Bishop, when seven received it at his hands.

On the morning of the same Sunday the Bishop administered the rite of confirmation to six—among whom were the two wardens and one of the vestry of the Church. They all with one exception partook of the communion.

In reviewing the progress of the Church for the three last months, I can truly say, "Hitherto has the Lord helped us." Although the congregation has not increased rapidly, there is manifestly an increased interest not only for the prosperity of the Church, but also for their own growth in piety. I now feel that I am not alone, but that I have a little band around, whose prayers daily ascend to the throne of grace for me; that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified.

FROM THE REV. G. P. WALDO, LATE A MISSIONARY.

Richmond, July 4, 1837.

It has ever been my intention to acquaint your Committee with my proceedings, and to ask for a regular discharge from their service if it should not appear practicable for me to locate with some hope of being able to discharge the duties of my station. That hope appears at present to be entirely taken from me, and I am more than apprehensive that it will be a long time, if ever, before I shall be able to discharge the duties incumbent upon one who labors in the hope of building up and sustaining a congregation in this western world. I have found much that might be done, and my heart has been set to do it, but alas ! while the sight of my eyes has affected my heart and impelled me to action, disease has paralyzed my hand, and I have been able to do little more than to sigh over the moral waste before me. Every where in the west and southwest there is great need of more laborers in the Master's vineyard, but in no place has my heart and my affections been so called forth as in this place. I arrived here the 25th of May with the previous information of there being one Episcopalian resident here ; but on visiting and making inquiry, I found nine or ten who had been communicants, and I think a number more would become so on the organization of a Church and the prospect of a regular service. I think a hundred may be calculated on at present as friends of the Church and would be regular in their attendance. Others may be found who have no permanent attachments, but for reasons of their own would prefer our Church to any other and would contribute the occasional mite to its support; and some of this class would be quite liberal in the case of an erection of a house of worship. The passing attention I receive from the young men, which form no inconsiderable part of the active and enterprising here, at least whispers that with them much may be done in future for their good and that of the Church. But from all this I am obliged to turn away in sorrow and regret. I go, however, with the consolation that the place will be occupied by one who I hope and pray will be to the people more than I could be under any the most favorable conditions of health and strength of body. I had determined at all risks to remain here and endeavor to lead the minds of this people into the peace and order of the Gospel of our blessed Lord. My purpose has been soon accomplished by the arrival of the Rev. G. Fiske, who is willing and desirous of occupying this place as the scene of his future labors. He will return in company with the Bishop, to be here on the 16th inst., after which time I shall, if God permit, return to my family and friends in western New-York.

ILLINOIS.

FROM THE REV. E. G. GEAR, MISSIONARY AT GALENA.

Galena, June 2, 1837.

Our friends will be pleased to learn that the Convention of Illinois has been held, that the Bishop and all his clergy were present, and that the affairs of the diocese and the prospects of the Church begin to brighten. We only want more of the right kind of men. At least a dozen more might be well located in Illinois: and the west side of the river is said to contain at least thirty thousand inhabitants, (I mean north of Missouri,) and I cannot learn that there is a respectable clergyman of any denomination among them. Besides, the whole of Wisconsin is nearly destitute of the means of religious instruction. Here, then, surely is a field even for those who are desirous to extend the blessings of the Gospel to the heathen. It will be gratifying, also, to our friends to learn that the clergy and laity, after the adjournment of the Convention, held a meeting and resolved to establish a College at Rock Island. To carry their plans into effect, a committee of five persons were appointed; and the most favorable results may be expected to the interests of religion and learning in the West. The enterprise, as far as it is known, meets with the most favorable approbation from the intelligent and respectable of the country. We are in hopes to get the temporary use of the public buildings on the Island and commence a primary school immediately.

June 27, 1837.

In looking over my memoranda I find that I have nothing of much interest to communicate to the Committee for the past quarter; I have continued, however, to officiate at Galena as usual, and when the weather would permit have performed the service and preached three times on Sunday; and this practice I intend to continue as often as practicable and circumstances will permit. The congregation, I am happy to inform the Committee, is much larger than it was a year ago, when I commenced my services, and we now number twenty communicants. We have begun to prepare the foundation, and to collect materials for the Church; but owing to the pressure of the times we shall not be able to do much this season. I trust when we shall have succeeded in building the church, the Committee may safely calculate that the congregation will be able to meet its expenses independent of their aid. On the 18th of this month I preached in the village of Stephenson, about ninety miles from Galena, on the Mississippi river, in the neighborhood of Rock Island, to a congregation of more than two hundred persons. This is one of the most lovely and important places in the West. There is no clergyman of any denomination in the neighborhood, and the whole population will be happy to receive one of our Church as their minister.

FROM THE REV. JAMES DE PUI, MISSIONARY AT ALTON.

Alton, June 7, 1837.

Our Bishop visited us in March last, and administered the rite of confirmation to nine individuals, and the holy communion to twenty. The congregation were very much gratified and benefited by his visit, and received much encouragement to persevere in their efforts to build up the Church and cause of Christ in Alton. Our congregation has more than doubled since my last report. It comprehends from 150 to 200 regular attendants upon public worship.

We have lately rented a building formerly occupied by the Baptist denomination. It contains from thirty to forty pews, and we have the house well filled morning and evening of every Lord's day. We are now paying for the use of it \$400 per annum.

A lot has been kindly presented to us upon which we had intended to erect a church this summer, but owing to the times we cannot expect to execute our intention. The ground has been excavated and prepared for laying the foundation of the building. The ladies had lately held a fair for the purpose of aiding in the erection of the church, and realized a profit of \$800. The Sunday school numbers seven teachers and about fifty scholars. The communicants number twenty-seven.

KENTUCKY.

FROM THE RT. REV. B. B. SMITH, D. D.

Lexington, August 14, 1837.

I request that Cynthiana and Leesburg, Harrison county, may be adopted as a missionary station. About 15 years ago the Rev. Mr. Ward was frequently called upon to perform services in Cynthiana, and few sections of the state seemed to hold out so much promise for the Church. Occasional services were rendered by several clergymen—by the Rev. Mr. Barge, the Rev. Mr. Wall, and the Rev. Mr. Cummin, and could a clergyman's have been secured at that time, no reasonable doubt can be entertained that the Church would have had a flourishing settlement there. This failing, the Methodists have mainly occupied the ground, though there remains to this day, on the part of several families, a decided preference for the Church, sufficient to encourage the hope that all is not yet lost. Within a few months the labors of a judicious and zealous lay-reader, a candidate for Holy Orders, have inspired us with new hope. And we cannot but think that, the way is opened for a Missionary to do much good there.

A village, ten miles distant, is adorned with a neat little frame Church, which has lately been erected by the uncommon exertions and disinterestedness of three brothers, by the name of

Hearne, whose parents came to this country, from Delaware, in vey early times. The two, make a convenient, important, and very promising missionary station.

FROM THE REV. AMOS CLEAVER, MISSIONARY AT PARIS.

Paris, June 22, 1837.

I continue my labors, officiating at Paris on Sunday mornings, and at my stations in the country on Sunday afternoons; one of which is six or seven miles from Paris, near Millersburgh, where a parish is organized by the name of St. Mark's parish; the other about four miles from Paris, towards Lexington. At this station there is no parish, but one could be immediately organized, were it thought advisable. My duties, during this quarter, have been very arduous. Besides preaching twice on Sunday and visiting the sick during the week, and I have had much of this to do, I have been obliged to do a great deal of manual labor. The painting of the Church has fallen upon me for the most part, as our friends did not allow us to have a painter, and we were determined not to get any thing done on credit. The Church will be opened for divine worship in about two weeks. The people are becoming more and more attached to the Church as they become more acquainted with her excellencies.

FROM THE REV. THOMAS W. COIT, D. D.

Lexington, August 15, 1837.

I presume it can never be unwelcome to the Domestic Committee to hear favorably of their Missionaries; and I therefore beg leave to tender them the result of my own observations, on one of their Missions in this vicinity. Circumstances having put the last three Sundays at my disposal, I have spent them with my brother Cleaver at Paris.

I have been highly gratified. After six years of disheartening labor, during which he made several long journeys to collect charitable contributions, and received, for salary, a pittance too small almost to be credited, (actually but \$75*,) he has succeeded in raising one of the prettiest and best-built churches I have ever seen west, or (in a village) east of the mountains. It is not large, but it has a basement story, (being built on a side-hill,) containing two rooms, one of which might be converted into a study, and the other into a Sunday school or lecture room. The pews are all of cherry, which is abundant here, while pine is very scarce; and being neatly varnished, are no bad imitation of mahogany. There is nothing tawdry about his Church, not an effort at false and costly ornament, but a simplicity at once

* Besides the Missionary allowance.—[ED.]

cheap and chaste, and which seems in such excellent keeping throughout, as to please better even than expensive decorations for the house of God. His congregation is not numerous, but it is select, and embraces some of the most respectable families in the place. The story of his labors and privations would be a good one to tell any young man at a Theological Seminary, whose heart faints perhaps in view of lighter trials. His horror of debt, and his sacrifices to abstain from it, have not only made himself, but the ministry, respectable.

In addition to Paris, he has two stations in the vicinity, which he visits on alternate Sundays. One of them I never saw, but the other, (between Lexington and Paris, off the main road a mile or more,) I visited with him, wishing and expecting to see how he would address a congregation of our plain but shrewd backwoodsmen. So many had collected, (there were perhaps fifty saddled horses within the meeting-house enclosure, besides wag-gons,) that he insisted on my addressing them in his stead. Their attention and seriousness interested me much. We were able by lining or "deaconing" out a hymn to use our own hymns; and had no objection to hear the groves of Kentucky echo them to the plaintive melody of Methodist music. I do not see why, with assistance, he could not build up a congregation there.

The people of Kentucky are generally very willing to hear, and will ask for whys and wherefores, which (I speak from experience) I believe many a clergyman at the East would often be delighted to hear, from a rational and respectable curiosity.

FROM THE REV. WILLIAM M'CALLEN, MISSIONARY AT RUSSELVILLE.

Russellville, July 1, 1837.

I officiate twice every Sunday, in the country in the morning, and in the evening in town. My congregation in town is usually large and respectable: in the country it consists principally of colored people, to whom I explain some portion of Scripture—not unfrequently one of the lessons for the day—in a plain and familiar manner, making such applications of it as I may deem suitable to their condition and character. To the number of communicants, I am sorry to say, there has been no accessions during the past quarter. In my last report I expressed, I think, a hope and trust that before this we should have commenced our little church in Russellville: but such is the distress of the times, and so great, consequently, the difficulty of collecting money, that we cannot at present do any thing towards putting it up. We look, however, for a better state of things, when men shall be wise enough to secure, in the first place, a celestial inheritance, and believe those pains and resources best bestowed which are laid out in the promotion of every thing connected with the kingdom and glory of our adorable Redeemer.

ALABAMA.

FROM THE RT. REV. NATHANIEL BOWEN, D. D.

Charleston, August 21, 1837.

I have just received an application from sundry Episcopalians in Lowndes County, Alabama, who are desirous of being provided with a clergyman. They offer \$500 and board. I have no doubt that any young man, having the right spirit in him, would be well supported and have a good and encouraging field of service. Can you name to me any one whom I may recommend to them? If you can, pray do so, and further get him appointed to that part of Alabama as a Missionary Station, with an allowance that will defray incipient expenses—and be continued in aid of the means which there will be raised for his support.

FROM THE REV. WILLIAM H. BARNWELL,

Charleston, July 24, 1837.

I received, a few days since, a letter from one of my congregation, now the lady of a promising physician in Benton, Alabama, begging me to interest myself in some way for the purpose of securing the services of an Episcopal minister in that place. She stated that there were one or two Episcopal families, and that the sum of \$500 had been raised as a salary. She represented the spiritual wants of the neighborhood as being very great.

I knew not what, under the circumstances, I could do for them better than advising that they make an application to your Committee for a Missionary, I at the same time promising to write this letter to you. Let me therefore beg, dear brethren, in godly earnestness, that if it be possible, some faithful herald of the Cross be sent to gather into the fold of Jesus, those in this region of desolation who may otherwise be lost. Something towards the support of the Missionary there will certainly be contributed by my congregation. Were it not for the times, I would at once say his whole salary. Still, by the blessing of God, we will do something.

FROM THE REV. THOMAS A. COOK, MISSIONARY AT FLORENCE.

Florence, June 1st, 1837.

Since my last report was sent to the Committee, few circumstances of importance have occurred. The Church, which we expected to erect, has been commenced. The ladies of Florence have had a fair for the benefit of it, but still our means are very limited, and it is possible that a Church, costing only \$2500, will involve us in a debt. However, we have the satisfaction of knowing that we have exerted ourselves to the utmost. Within the three quarters that I have spent at this place, I have had the

pleasure of welcoming to the flock of Christ, *three* intelligent and respectable members. I have preached every Sunday in the last quarter, with the exception of two, when the congregations could not be collected on account of the inclemency of the weather. I am happy to say, that we meet with greater kindness from other denominations than we have ever experienced before. They begin to look upon our Church as Orthodox and Christian, and our congregations are, with a very few exceptions, on the most friendly terms. May it ever remain thus, and the work of the Lord will prosper gloriously in our hands.

FROM THE REV. ANDREW MATTHEWS, MISSIONARY AT TUSCALOOSA.

Tuscaloosa, June 11, 1837.

The prospects of our beloved Zion brighten daily. Since the first of April last I have baptized eleven children and one adult, a gentleman of high standing, and in whose religious principles I have the utmost confidence. At my last communion I added five new communicants: I trust it was a day of comfort to many. From a scattering congregation, and a want of good order, we have now a very respectable and well ordered one. Indeed every thing seems to assume a new and favorable aspect. We have the best regulated Sunday school in the place. The gentleman above referred to, whom I lately baptized, has taken the superintendence of it.

FROM THE REV. R. G. HAYS, MISSIONARY AT WETUMPKA.

Wetumpka, June 29, 1837.

During the last three months I have, in the kind providence of God, been able to perform services regularly in my congregation. I have preached two Sundays, after service in Wetumpka, at a school-house, about eleven miles distant, in the country. My audience there is composed entirely of other denominations—my services, however, have been favorably received—on the last occasion six Common Prayer Books were purchased of me. The prospects of the Church here are still encouraging. The number who have a decided preference for her worship is indeed small—but sufficient, I trust, to support her until others learn to appreciate her privileges, or she gathers strength by emigrants from other places.

FROM THE REV. L. B. WRIGHT, MISSIONARY AT DEMOPOLIS.

July 3, 1837.

Since my last communication to the Committee, my health has permitted me to extend the field of my labors to the destitute regions around me. The "Forks," a branch of this station, I have

visited as often as my health would permit. This neighborhood embraces a portion of country the most healthy and the most fertile in the State. The population is wealthy and respectable, composed principally of emigrants from Virginia, many of whom are acquainted with our Church, and are anxious for its establishment in the neighborhood. There are about a dozen communicants, and I am confident, could they be blessed with a faithful and resident minister, the Church would there take root and flourish. I shall continue to give them a portion of my services for the present, but am anxious to call the attention of the Committee to it with a view of inducing them to send a Missionary so soon as he can be obtained.

I have also visited Linden, a town sixteen miles south of this, a place offering the like inducements to a faithful shepherd. Six or eight Episcopal families, from North Carolina, have, within a few weeks, settled in and about that place, and lift high their voices for the Church *they have left behind*, and who assure me it is the greatest privation they experience in their removal from their native State.

I have also visited St. John's Church in the Prairies, by the request of the Vestry of that Church. This parish has remained vacant since the death of the Rev. Dr. Avery, but has now a fair prospect of being supplied by a gentleman from North Carolina.

FROM THE REV. WILLIAM JOHNSON, MISSIONARY AT MONTGOMERY.

Montgomery, August 10, 1837.

My present report will doubtless seem late in its arrival. My hands having got accidentally poisoned with a wild shrub, I was deprived of their use for nearly six weeks. They are now brought first into use to discharge this duty.

With the exception of a few Sundays, I have had the services of the day with regularity. Among these exceptions were two Sundays when I preached in Haynesville, (a missionary station,) and two Sundays when I was absent to attend the Convention of this diocese at Greensboro'. Our Church is completed. But we have been unable until lately to employ a painter. He is now engaged in the painting, and will finish next week. We shall have our first service there on Sunday, the 20th instant. I am encouraged to hope from appearances that ours will soon be the most important denomination in and about here.

MISSISSIPPI.

FROM THE REV. M. L. FORBES, MISSIONARY AT COLUMBUS.

Columbus, May 14, 1837.

I have been in this town ever since August, 1836, except a few weeks absence in New-Orleans, and preached regularly from Sunday to Sunday to large and respectful congregations. The

Episcopal service, to this people generally, was entirely new, and I have been not a little surprised at the apparent interest they took in it. No service in town is better attended than it, and in none does the mass appear to be interested more.

Not being in priest's orders, I have not been able to ascertain the number of communicants, neither do I know the number of families that will take sides with us. Our Church has been regularly organized, under the name of St. Paul's Church, Columbus, and a church edifice is now going up for our use: whether we shall be able to finish it soon it is impossible for me to say. The present money pressure renders it exceedingly difficult to collect the subscriptions that were made some time ago. If, however, the edifice is not completed this year, I have no doubt it will be sometime next.

FROM THE REV. J. F. FISH, MISSIONARY AT WOODVILLE AND
PINCKNEYVILLE.

Woodville, June 12, 1837.

On my first arrival here, I took my stand upon the independent ground of "a Missionary of the Church." My object, therefore, has been to become acquainted with the people, and to make them acquainted with the Church—to inquire after the unbaptized, and to search out those who, in their former distant homes, may have known and enjoyed our services—to induce them to attend upon the ordinances of the sanctuary—always assuring them that our "seats are free," (a great recommendation here,) and that it is their spiritual welfare which the Church regard, and not, as too many suppose, their pecuniary benefactions.

As to the result, I am happy to inform the Committee that the desired effect has been realized in the general interest which exists in the community in behalf of our services—in the increasing zeal in our own members—in the always respectable, and not unfrequently crowded Sunday congregations—in the respectful attention, and often deep seriousness manifested in the house of God—and finally, by an accession of 12 members to the privileges of the Church, (11 infants and 1 adult,) whom it was my privilege to baptize on a recent occasion.

I shall take pleasure in informing the Committee of whatever is done for my support, and trust that, under the Divine blessing, the liberal mind may be given where the worldly ability is not wanting, and that not long hence the Church here may return a rich tribute into that sacred treasury, from whence, in her incipency, she has been sustained and encouraged.

New-York, August 22, 1837.

I doubt not that in one or two years at longest, we shall be enabled to sustain our own services—nay more, that under the

Divine blessing so abundantly vouchsafed thus far, our little congregation at Woodville, will be more than willing to *bestow* where they have *received*—to aid where they have been aided. At no time since my arrival there have the prospects of the Church been as encouraging as at present.

Prejudice seems to have been overcome, and our congregations are uniformly good. Among the most gratifying assurances of good which I have witnessed, is that derived from the fact, that the *young men* of the place are, almost universally, uniform and respectful attendants upon our services.

Our Sunday school is increasing in numbers and interest—(scholars 40, teachers 8.) I have baptized in all, twenty persons (one adult) and six blacks. The Vestry have determined to paint and repair the church, and to allow this have recommended a suspension of services for a few weeks during this Summer.

In view of all he has seen and experienced, your Missionary feels encouraged to go on in the work he has undertaken, believing in the Divine promise that we “shall reap if we faint not.”

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

MISSION TO CHINA.

REPORT OF THE REV. H. LOCKWOOD, ASSOCIATE MISSIONARY TO CHINA, DATED BATAVIA, ISLAND OF JAVA, FEBRUARY 22, 1837.

Review of the past year's labor—Discouraging circumstances—Influence of Climate—Religious Services at Batavia—English and American Residents—Bible Class—Tract distribution—The “Fire Ceremony”—“Festival of the Dragon Boats”—Operations of the Religious Press.

IN looking back upon the first year of a Missionary life, chequered as it has been by many varied events of deep personal interest, but still calling for many and ardent thanks to the Giver of all good, I cannot but feel that there is also cause for much self abasement, on account of the little that has been accomplished in his service. Want of livelier gratitude and love, and more entire devotedness of heart to Him who has done so much for us, and want of a deeper and more permanent and active sympathy, for the heathen around us, who are living and dying in ignorance of the blessings of the Gospel, and of the immortal hopes which it inspires, must, alas! be acknowledged to be but too truly the cause of much of this deficiency. The responsibilities of a Missionary in a heathen land, and the motives which ought to bear him forward, even under many discouraging circumstances, are indeed great and powerful, and such as might be expected to make him especially, what the Apostle enjoins upon all the followers of Christ, *abounding in the work of the*

Lord. But experience also proves that the Missionary has human infirmities, not less than other Christians, to contend with, while there are some difficulties peculiar to his situation.

The want of countenance and support from Christian society, and the prevailing influence of an opposite and almost universal spirit of worldliness and devotedness to pleasure among foreigners generally, to many of whom he is under obligations for valuable favors and courteous treatment, are not a little calculated to damp his zeal. Familiarity too, with the condition of the heathen, has a constant tendency to lessen those feelings of lively interest in their spiritual welfare, which are at first excited by considering them in the aggregate, and in all the consequences of their spiritual destitution. More especially is this the case, if, as in Java, there are no striking scenes of moral depravity or outward suffering to call forth sympathy.

INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE.—But besides these, and often more than all, is the debilitating influence of climate. They who have themselves suffered under the prostration of mind and body resulting from this cause, and have experienced those feelings of inefficiency to meet even the most ordinary duties, will know how to estimate this difficulty in the case of others. They will not have much hesitation in acknowledging, that those more acute diseases of the body which bring with them an undoubted respite from active duties, and prevent the individual from seeing and feeling how much *might* be done, would be far preferable to this, in which there is often as much inability for competent exertion as in those cases, while it is not always easy to satisfy the conscience, that one is not guilty of sinful inactivity and neglect.

The effects of the climate however, do not thus bear upon all alike who come to this part of the world. Some of the Missionaries here seem to experience very little, if any, inconvenience from it. Most of those engaged in mercantile pursuits also enjoy very good health, as much so as in temperate latitudes where I have been acquainted; but they do not by any means apply themselves so incessantly, nor perform an equal amount of labor in a given time. Neither is the climate of Java more unfavorable in this respect than that of other parts of Eastern Asia which we have visited. On the contrary, I think it preferable to most of them, and certainly from all accounts far better than in Hindostan. During the rainy season—from about the last of November to the first of April—which is considered the pleasantest part of the year, notwithstanding the abundance of rain, the thermometer is seldom above 80° Fahrenheit in the middle of the day, and in the morning as low as 72°. There is often found a very grateful and refreshing air, especially in the country a little distance from the city. The inconveniences experienced from the climate do not seem to proceed so much from the direct influence of great heat at any time of the year, as from a want of power in the atmosphere to sustain the vigor of the system. There is a sensible

deficiency of something. The poet has perhaps well described it,

"A listless climate made, where, sooth to say,
No living wight could work, ne cared e'en for play."

This diluted atmosphere, if the expression may be allowed, is peculiarly unfavorable to the recovery of strength after sickness and debility, or to sustaining the attacks of disease. Then the system seems to labor under the faintness and exhaustion of confinement in a close room. A change of climate becomes in such case almost indispensable. Mr. Hanson has suffered more from this cause than I have, since our residence here. It affects him more easily from his greater disposition to nervous sensibility, and thus deprives him very much of the benefit of rest and sleep. For the last three months he has been able to do very little. He will probably set out on a tour among some of the Islands, or to some distant part of Java, before long, which I think the best thing he can do at present.

PUBLIC RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—During our preparatory labors in the native languages, we have endeavored to make ourselves useful according to our ability, and as we have had opportunity. We have assisted to keep up an English service once every Sunday during the year, besides an evening service, at which a printed discourse has usually been read. This last has been principally for the benefit of the missionary families and the children of the orphan asylum and school. We have found the remainder of the Prayer Books, which we received from the Bishop White Society, very usefully disposed of in the chapel for the use of these children and others. As the English preaching has been shared in by all the different missionaries who have come here, the duty has been but light; and whenever they have been unwilling, or not sufficiently acquainted with the Prayer Book to use it, which has not always been the case, that part of the service has been performed by one of ourselves, or by the person employed here as their superintendent by the London Missionary Society.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN RESIDENTS.—The number of English and Americans here is not far from 120, of whom perhaps one third attend church either regularly or occasionally. In this number there are but three or four, besides missionaries, who profess to be communicants. I have by request administered the communion once, at which fourteen persons were present, and have also baptised two children of European parents. The Dutch have one church which is supplied with two ministers, one of whom sometimes preaches in the Malay language at another place. The Roman Catholics have also a church, and there is a small society of Armenians.

As this is the only place in Batavia in which public religious services are held in the English language, it would be a cause of deep regret that it should ever be suffered to stop. Should it be so, it were much to be feared that the current of moral reckless-

ness would soon sweep away what little now remains of the remembrance of God, of his holy day, and the obligations of his Gospel. It is a subject of painful reflection that irreligion prevails so decidedly even now, especially among young and unmarried men, most of whom have perhaps left behind them in their native countries characters of fair and promising hope. The principles of such persons have need to be well fixed indeed to sustain them against the force of irreligious example and influence by which they are surrounded. Still it is due to the character of the foreigners resident here generally, to acknowledge that there are among them some men whom it would be difficult not to respect and esteem, men who reverence the institutions of religion and would be glad to see its principles universally disseminated, and who are ready to second, as far as they are able, every good and philanthropic design. Were such men more numerous, and the jealousy of the Dutch government not such as to prevent freedom of action, we might expect important aid in this place, towards extending the blessings of Christianity among the surrounding heathen. The erection of a place of worship, and the expense necessary to keep it in use; the zeal and efficiency with which an Orphan Asylum is sustained, principally by the efforts of a few individuals, and the readiness with which a proposal to form a Bible Society, made not long since for the benefit of the natives of these islands, was received, show that there are some here who are by no means backward in good works.

BIBLE CLASS.—On Thursday evenings during the greater part of the year, I have been in the habit of meeting with a class of sixteen or twenty of the elder children of the Orphan Asylum and boarding school, for instruction in the Scriptures. This is conducted in a familiar manner by their reading, after a suitable prayer is offered, a portion of the New Testament previously appointed, and questioning them as they proceed, on the verses read. Explanations are then given, and such practical remarks as the subjects call for. There is reason to indulge the cheering hope that the little time thus devoted to these children will not have been spent in vain. The religious knowledge they have acquired by this means, and in the Sunday school, is considerable, and the good impressions made upon their youthful minds, will, it may be hoped, result in much benefit to themselves, as well as tend to fit them for salutary and useful influence in this country.

DISTRIBUTION OF TRACTS.—In the distribution of tracts we have not done so much as opportunities would have permitted, judging it advisable to wait until a knowledge of the language would enable us to understand something of their contents, and to make them more useful to the recipients by personal conversation. A few, both in Malay and Chinese, have been given away, but most in the Chinese. They always receive them with pleasure, and if at their houses, will often offer tea and other refreshments in return. At the annual celebration of the "Fire

Ceremony" we attended, and gave away a number of Tracts, principally Mr. Medhurst's Harmony of the Gospels. We found no difficulty in getting rid of our stock, though we were annoyed by the importunities of many whom we thought not likely to receive much benefit from them, such as boys and others unable to read. The ceremony of passing through the fire is usually performed by eight or ten persons, who are supposed to be hired by the priests for the purpose. A circle of about twelve feet in diameter is covered with burning coals, six or eight inches in depth, and situated about fifty yards in front of a temple. Over this fire, a small quantity of salt is occasionally thrown. When every thing is prepared, the devotees, sometimes headed by a priest and bearing in their hands some small images, gilt paper, &c., set out from the temple at full speed, and pass, one after the other, with naked feet through the fire. This is repeated—though not always by the same individuals—three or four times, amidst the beating of gongs and the shouting of the people. At last, a large quantity of gilt paper, and several figures of different sizes, gaudily decorated and hung about with strings of fire-crackers, are placed together and set on fire. The work of combustion goes on with a rapid explosion, and the whole is soon in ashes. The gilt paper, &c. being carried through the fire and afterwards burnt, is supposed to atone for the sins of the donors in proportion to its value. The priests are busy for some time beforehand in going about and collecting money for the occasion. By the more intelligent and wealthy Chinese this farce is regarded with great contempt, and as being an artifice of the priests to obtain money, though most of them still fall in with it on account of old custom.

THE FESTIVAL OF THE DRAGON BOATS is another annual ceremony which assembles a large part of the Chinese population, as well as great numbers of the Malays. This is performed on the canals which pass through the Chinese part of the town. Several boats, constructed and painted so as to represent dragons with fierce-looking heads and long tails, and each containing from twelve to twenty persons, and paddled up and down the stream with great speed, attended with gongs and other discordant music. It is difficult to perceive what there is in this to attract such crowds, except it be to see the boats' crews bespatter each other, and occasionally get a plunge into the water. This custom is said to have originated not less than 2000 years ago. A distinguished minister of state, who stood high in the esteem of the people, had the misfortune to be associated in office with men who were destitute of his uprightness and integrity of character. The emperor himself who happened to be of a disposition to listen more readily to evil counsels than to good, was instigated by those unworthy associates, to displace his faithful minister. He was accordingly sent back in disgrace to private life, in which condition he passed his time in great grief, though still respected by the

people. As he was one day crossing a river in a small boat, he was accidentally overturned in the middle of the stream and drowned. Great search was immediately made to recover the body, but all without success. The event was afterwards commemorated by an annual assembling with boats to seek for the body of the lost man; and the custom finally came into general practice, throughout several of the provinces of the empire. The Chinese say that a voice is still to be heard near the place at which he was drowned, but no body could ever yet be discovered. Whether they are sincere in the belief of this is uncertain, but with what hope of success they can still continue the search in the canals of Batavia, it is not difficult to imagine. The occasion, however, afforded an excellent opportunity for distributing Tracts, and a great many were given away both in Chinese and Malay. Numbers of the latter we afterwards learned were destroyed, but the Chinese, so far as we have discovered, are seldom guilty of this. Besides their general fondness for reading, they have a certain degree of reverence for every thing printed in their character.

RELIGIOUS PRESS OPERATIONS.—Mr. Gutzlaff kindly sent to us, some time ago, a donation of about 1200 of his Tracts. They were printed at Singapore, under the direction of Mr. Tracy. They are all, as he says, in the strictest sense of the word, biblical. One is upon the sufferings of the Saviour, the other on the Sermon on the Mount—the life of the Saviour—his Nativity, &c. They are done in a style and appearance quite attractive to the Chinese. One in particular “on the redemption from sin,” is very popular, being in the form of dialogue between different intelligent and grave Chinese, one of whom is made to possess the true knowledge of God and salvation, by which he corrects the false theories and superstitions of his companions. I have sometimes been applied to by persons who have received this, for other copies for their friends.

The Chinese New Testament is now in printing here by the lithographic mode. About 2000 copies have already been finished at the cost of 40 cents each, including paper. It is bound in two volumes, one containing the Gospels, and the other the Acts and the Epistles. This is the revised version, and has been prepared by the joint labors of nearly all those best acquainted with the Chinese language. It is our intention to procure a supply of these as soon as we receive the necessary funds from home. A few have already been distributed. At Buitenzong, about forty miles in the interior, where there are 2000 Chinese, I gave away a number of copies, besides a large quantity of Tracts. Here, I would remark, is an excellent opportunity for establishing schools. The situation is more healthful and pleasant than at Batavia, and the journey from thence is performed in four or five hours.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

MISSION TO AFRICA.

JOURNAL OF THE REV. THOMAS S. SAVAGE, M. D.

Removal to the Mission premises.—The Mission buildings.—Opening of Missionary operations on Easter day.—Exercises of the School.—Visit to two native Kings.—“Sheppard’s Lake.”—The African Palm.—The Mangrove.—Grahway town.—Superstitions.—Encouragement to Missionary exertions.

Cape Palmas, W. A., April 8, 1837.

On the fourth of March last we left the Cape for a residence upon the Mission premises, from the centre of which, as you have already been informed, rises a beautiful mount to the height of one hundred feet. To this mount we have given the name of VAUGHAN. As there must be several stations and some name by which each may be distinguished, I would respectfully express the wish, that this be called after your beloved predecessor, under whose administration the first missionaries of the Protestant Episcopal Church were appointed to Africa.

At the time of our entrance, the house which the Committee expected would be finished before my arrival, had only so far advanced as to be barely sufficient to protect us from the weather. Even at this period, an elapse of time of more than four weeks, our culinary operations are conducted beneath a booth or thatch of palm leaves. By constant personal attention, however, much has been accomplished since our removal, and things are so far advanced as will enable us to complete the necessary arrangements for the health and comfort of our anxiously-looked for associates.

The house is two stories high, thirty-one by sixteen feet in the body, with a double piazza in front and rear, seven feet wide. We have thought it best to board up the back piazzas, the lower of which has been converted into temporary store-rooms, one for the Mission, and the other for Mr. Thomson. The upper is now occupied by myself as lodging and medical rooms.

I am now building a kitchen twelve by fifteen feet. In this our boys must lodge and eat, till the school-room shall be completed. The building for the school-room is to be in the rear of the first Mission house, thirty-six by eighteen feet, twenty-four by eighteen of which I have designed for the school-room. The remainder is for the store-house, which for security against the depredations of natives and vermin, must be lathed and plastered throughout.

EASTER was the day selected, upon which to *open fully our Missionary operations*. So long as we resided at the Cape at a distance from the school, no system could be adopted. But now being permanently upon the ground, and in the possession of health, we are enabled to enter upon the great work before us with its appropriate duties defined.

Passion week was observed to that extent which the general interests of the Mission would permit. Good Friday was strictly observed as a day of humiliation before God, fasting and prayer, according to the solemn exercises prescribed by our ritual. Not a stroke of the laborer was heard upon our premises, but all was clothed in the sacred stillness and solemnities of the day.

On Easter we celebrated the resurrection of Christ from the dead, and in connection his appearing to this benighted people through the holy ordinances of our Missionary church. Oh, may it never be forgotten by the Church at home, that upon *this recent* was there opened the door of that Temple which is built up of "lively stones" "on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. JESUS CHRIST himself being the *chief corner stone*!" And may she never forget that with her, as the chosen instrument of God, it rests, whether this door shall continue open till "all the nations" within the embrace of this vast peninsula, this grand division of the globe, "shall flow into it," and join in the sweet song of praise to God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

The general occupation of our time, and the *exercises of the school*, for the present, are as follows:

At half past five, A. M., the bell rings for rising. Between this and seven o'clock the children are occupied in manual labor. At seven the bell rings for prayers. Breakfast at eight. The school is opened at nine, and dismissed at twelve. Dinner at one, P. M. School is re-opened at two, and dismissed at five. Supper at half past six. Prayers at eight; immediately after which is the time for the scholars to retire.

I make an examination of each scholar on Wednesday afternoon. I find it necessary to take upon myself the superintendence of the workmen, &c., and let Mr. Thomson devote his time to the school. I refuse no call upon my medical capacity. I am therefore fully occupied from morning till night. The state of my health may be judged of from the fact that I yesterday rode to Rocktown, in the hottest part of the day, to visit a sick teacher of the A. B. C. F. M., and in crossing a stream, made furiously rapid by the swell of the ocean, was almost submerged; in which condition I rode home, making a distance, in going and returning, of sixteen miles, and yet have experienced no inconvenience. This is the second visit to the same individual. I have performed our service with preaching a sermon every Sunday since our entrance into this house. The afternoon of each Sabbath is devoted to the religious instruction in the exercises of the Sabbath school, of the children, and such colonists as can be persuaded to attend.

The Committee may rest assured that "a wide and effectual door" is opening for the Episcopal Church in Africa. Though last in the field, yet events are daily unfolding the truth, that she is ere long to become one of the *foremost* of the agents, under God, in accomplishing the evangelization of this vast peninsula.

These are not, I humbly trust, the remarks of a self-boasting spirit. No, God forbid that my heart should for one moment harbor such a feeling—that it should ever beat to the impulse of so unholy a motive in so holy a cause. I make them that you may know the fact, and from this may see the smiles of God upon your labors. I have never felt that the efforts hitherto made by the Church were in vain; that the many fervent prayers that have been offered up at her sacred altars, had failed to reach the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. No! but that He was only taking his own time and own way of accomplishing his own purposes in behalf of despised Africa. I have ever felt, and feel so still, that the time is approaching when the designs of heaven's benevolence will be fully unfolded to the encouragement of its friends and the confusion of its enemies.

April 14.—Visit to two native kings.—Having, by the blessing of God, brought matters into such a train upon the mission premises, as would admit of my absence for a few days, I decided upon making a visit to two of our neighboring kings, whose children we have under instruction, Baphro, king of the Cavally, and Barrah Kibby, king of the Bulyemah country. On the morning of the 4th instant, I embarked in company with Mr. Thomson, the children who were natives of that region, and six Kroomen, in a canoe upon "Sheppard's Lake" for Grahway, a town situated upon the coast at a distance of about eight miles to the leeward of Cape Palmas. This lake is a beautiful sheet of salt water, extending about eight miles. It is nearly parallel throughout with the seacoast, from which it is separated in many places only by a narrow bank of sand thrown up by the surf, this evidently showing that originally it was but a bay or arm of the sea. Large quantities of fine fish are obtained once or twice in the year by draining the lake. This is done by a collection of native boys, who, with their hands and sticks, dig a trench in the narrowest part of the bank towards the ocean, when the rush of waters soon breaks an outlet into the sea. A bank is again raised by the returning surf, and the usual quantity of water soon renewed by the rains and tributary streams. Immediately at the foot of this lake is located the establishment of the American Board.

An excursion upon this lake affords to the admirer of nature a scene of beauty and surpassing interest. Its banks are mantled with perpetual verdure of the richest hue. From their sloping sides ascend those trees which give to a tropical country its striking and unique appearance. The palm, the pride of tropical climates, rivals all others in the grandeur of its appearance; ascending to a height of twenty, forty, sixty, and even an hundred feet, it confines all its foliage to its very summit. I have seen four species in this vicinity. And here it may not be improper to give a short account of the practical uses of the palm among the natives.

The palm proper affords a nut which to the African is at once

a great source of food and of wealth. When ripe, it is a rich and delicious fruit, possessing a good degree of nutriment. From this nut is obtained the palm oil which is becoming every year in commerce a more important article of export. The demand is steadily increasing in Europe and America, inasmuch as it is made the basis of the refined and cosmetic soaps. The process by which it is obtained, though rude, is simple, and involves the principle of like operations in all civilized countries. The nuts are gathered at certain seasons, carried to a convenient watering place, boiled, then bruised in a mortar, and poured into a canoe of cold water. The pulp is then agitated and squeezed by the hand till all the oil which can be thus expressed, floats upon the surface. It is then skimmed off and put up in earthen pots and jars of native manufacture for use and market. It is now in its crude state; and is so used for food and other purposes by the colonists and natives. Its color is a deep yellow approaching to red. When clarified it is as colorless as lard, and then forms an oil for the table not inferior to that of the olive. The price of the oil here, is one dollar, or two bars for a croo. The nominal value of a "bar" is fifty cents. The volume of a croo is four gallons. With a slight degree of clarification, palm oil is equal, and many think superior, for light, to any obtained from the whale. It is much cheaper, and we hope ere long will be offered for sale in that state which is proper for the lamp. Besides the oil, a fluid is obtained from this species, which, as it is drawn from the tree, is sweet and highly pleasant to the taste. This is the native wine of Africa. Within twenty-four hours it undergoes the process of fermentation, and then contains about the same degree of alcohol as American cider. If carried still farther, it forms a very sharp and pleasant vinegar, inferior, however, to that made from the juice of the apple.

The other species of palm, common to this region, is the palmetto,—very much like the cabbage of the South in the United States, and the cocoanut.

A no less striking object on near approach is the Mangrove—"Rhizophora"—a tree as full of mystery in modern as in ancient times. One great peculiarity is the habit of shooting its branches into the water and earth below, forming new trunks and trees, till the whole forests thus sprung up and spread, within the dark recesses of which crocodiles and other aquatic animals find a lurking place. It is from these mangrove forests, these hiding places of water serpents and other reptiles, proceed those *nameless things* which seem to have their origin and place in the theory only of some medical authors—the tales of travellers and the Peter Parley's of the day. They are represented as coming forth in millionary numbers, and with the blight of their wings spreading far and wide the seeds of disease and death in the atmosphere of Africa! These invisible, infinitesimal creatures or principles, I need not say, I have been unable to see or detect.

No one, nor all of my senses have yet proved adequate to such a task. They remain, therefore, as I found them, in the books and brains of others. I can find no other ground for disease in a general sense, than what necessarily exists in a change of climate—its necessary effects upon the systems of strangers. And as to local causes, they do not differ, so far as I can see, from those which facts prove to be common in almost all new countries. These I find sufficient to account primarily for all the disease I have yet seen peculiar to Africa. Add to these the dissipated habits of some, and the great imprudence of others—and it will be unnecessary to look much farther for causes of disease.

After a delightful sail of about two hours, we arrived at the town of Grahway, or Grabway Point. Its entrance, like almost all the towns of Western Africa along the coast, is guarded by a "gregree-house." This generally consists of two bee-hives decorated with feathers, goat horns, rags, &c. Trees are generally seen too, with refuse of all kinds thrown around the roots, and guarded from the contact of profane hands and feet by a high paling. These senseless things are objects of great veneration with the Africans, and are supposed to exert an influence in warding off and appeasing the anger, and conciliating the favor of evil spirits. We found the king of this town absent, and were received, therefore, by his head trade-man. I asked "what good these things without life could do?" The reply was, "great deal; the people be bad people—the devil get among them, and bewitched 'em so they kill one another, and some be sick—sick head—sick leg, and ebery ting bad—bad too much—we send for devil man (doctor)—he come, he put up gregree, he cure 'em all—no sick now—all ting go on fine—be good people, and *dat de good* they do." Soon this wonderful man appeared, and a formal introduction took place between the African and the American doctor. The African insignia of his office are a long bushy beard and a horse tail thrust under the left arm. These poor deluded people had sent nearly a hundred miles up the coast for the services of this celebrated agent of the evil one.

They attribute to the devil all providence! I told them that it existed only in God. They believe that the atonement for sin lies in the power of "*Fetichism!*" I told them that it lay in the blood of Jesus Christ. They believe that, if clothed in these "gregrees," they will enter the abodes of the blessed! I told them that, "except a man be born again he cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven." Except he be provided with the spotless robe of Christ's righteousness, he must depart as cursed "into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

They say they are very desirous of the benefits of schools. In their vague language they wish to "sabby book." This wish is based upon the acknowledged superiority of the whites. They wish to know the white man's God, because they think by so doing they shall become the white man's equal, and this is *encou-*

ragement to missionary effort. This is a door, a door opened, through which the light of the gospel may be brought to strike upon their benighted minds.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM THE REV. JOHN PAYNE, DATED

Mount Vaughan, Cape Palmas, W. A., July 6, 1837.

You will be gratified to learn that we reached this place, the field of our future labors, in perfect health, on Tuesday, the 4th of July. Soon after coming to anchor, the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of the American Board, came on board of our vessel to meet us, and as Dr. Savage was two miles distant from the Cape, kindly invited us to his house until the Doctor should arrive. By the time we reached the shore, however, our beloved brother, the subject of so many prayers and fears, about whom we almost feared to make any inquiries, made his appearance amidst hundreds of that degraded race, to save whom he had willingly sacrificed all that, in the estimation of the world, renders life desirable. No one, my dear sir, until he has experienced it, can form any adequate conception of the thrill of joy occasioned by greeting a missionary brother under circumstances like these. To me it was like meeting "one from the dead," for *dead*, I feared, I almost expected he was. God, however, had been better than all my fears. I found Dr. Savage not only alive, but likewise, notwithstanding the sickness and other trying scenes through which he had passed, in health, looking, we thought, as well as when he left America. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson we also found in tolerably good health, and they have proved, I think most conclusively, that ministers of the Gospel can live as well as slave traders in Africa. The preservation of the lives and health of these servants of God has been truly encouraging to our hearts, and affords us reason humbly to hope that we too may be spared to make known the Gospel to the benighted multitude by which we are continually surrounded.

If we have been cheered by the circumstances I have mentioned, we have been still more so, by the appearance of the country and the prospects of usefulness before us. You have no doubt had already from Dr. Savage a description of Cape Palmas, and the scenery in its vicinity. I shall not, therefore, trouble you with another at this time, but will only say what, without any previous knowledge of the country, would doubtless be considered very extravagant, that it appeared to be the most lovely situation I had ever beheld. Accustomed as I had always been, notwithstanding representations to the contrary, to associate with Africa nought but parching winds and sandy deserts, and poisonous vapors; its cooling breezes, its beautiful variety of hill and valley clothed in rich and ever-during verdure, and the sweet odors

breathing around, perfectly delighted me. Nor was my pleasure at all diminished by a ride out to the mission-house, which Mrs. Payne and myself took on Wednesday, having spent the previous day and night under the hospitable roof of the Rev. Mr. Wilson, until a room could be prepared for our reception. Our road (commencing at the Cape, and to be extended during the present year as far as Denah, on the Cavally river,) lay along through the thickest undergrowth, and the lofty spreading trees peculiar to tropical countries. After travelling this road about two miles, we came suddenly in view of Mount Vaughan, the site of our mission establishment. The description you have had of this place, will give you some conception how desirable a location has fallen into our hands. Indeed, dear sir, from the time I first set foot upon Cape Palmas, until the present time, enjoying as I have excellent health, and surrounded by nature's loveliest works, I have had the greatest difficulty in realizing that there is a dark side of the picture yet to be seen. But still, do not think me carried away by first impressions and first appearances, so far as to be betrayed by them into the neglect of that prudence, so earnestly and affectionately urged upon us in the instructions of your Committee. Notwithstanding what I at present see and feel, I must turn a deaf ear to all that I hear of the sufferings of all African Missionaries who have preceded me, *not to expect* that trials, and afflictions, and perhaps death, await me also. But my heart's desire is that "none of these things" may "move me," yea, that I may "not count even my life dear unto myself, so that I may finish my course with joy, and the work that may be given me to do."

It gives me unfeigned joy to inform you that the mission prospers, and our prospects of usefulness continue to brighten. We have at present in the school, 14 boys and 4 girls, who will form the foundation of a class for Mrs. Payne. The neighboring kings are becoming more and more favorable to have their children educated. Dr. Savage will no doubt inform you that, anticipating the instructions given to us in reference to extending our operations into the interior, he lately visited Denah, and contracted with the king to build a school-house, he being not only willing to do this, but also to support the scholars who may be instructed, at his own expense. I learn also from Mr. Wilson, who has lately visited the town of Kay, distant about 25 miles, in a northeast direction from Cape Palmas, and never before visited by a white man, that Feddah, of that place, and king of the Bolobo country, is anxious to have schools established amongst his people. Thus the Committee will perceive that for some reason, what it is we know not, every king within a range of 30 miles from Cape Palmas, expresses a willingness to receive the messengers of salvation by Jesus Christ. An unbounded field opens itself to Christian effort. Thousands are hungering and dying, yet with outstretched hands *imploring* those who in

spiritual privileges are in want of nothing, for the "bread of life." Oh, could Christians at home realize these things, as those do who are compelled hourly to behold these poor miserable beings, how much more fervently would they pray, and how much more liberally would they give, to save them from misery and death!

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM THE REV. LANCELOT B. MINOR,
DATED

Cape Palmas, July 7, 1837.

At sunrise, on the morning of the fourth, Cape Palmas was full in view. My anxiety to know the fate of Dr. Savage, already painful, increased every moment. About nine o'clock, a boat manned by Kroomen, came along side, who assured me he was well. An hour after we were sitting together under the hospitable roof of Mr. Wilson.

We have at length reached the scene of action, and are calmly waiting for the fever. God in his mercy has removed from our minds all dread whatsoever. Indeed, we can scarcely realize, that air so bland and soft as this, can be so deleterious to human life. But it is even so. Possibly I am at this moment writing the last line I shall ever direct to you, and if so, dear brother, farewell until we meet where pain and sickness are no more.

GREEK MISSION.

ISLAND OF SYRA.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM THE REV. J. J. ROBERTSON, D. D.,
DATED

Syra, May 29th, 1837.

You will be rejoiced to learn that our school continues to increase. We have now 162 pupils, and our premises are literally crowded. Mrs. Robertson finds the labor very great, especially now that the hot weather has come on, and unites with me in earnestly asking for help. Syra, although its name is only beginning to be known abroad, is certainly one of the most important stations in the Levant. Its population is, by several thousands, greater than that of any other town in Greece. Our streets literally swarm with children, many of whom have no means of education. Mr. Hildner's school is large and flourishing, and we might have one quite as large, and yet there would be multitudes whom neither of us could accommodate. We much desire to have a married missionary brother sent to us. There will be abundance of missionary work to keep us both fully occupied, and then occasionally one of us might make an excursion, to visit the schools and do missionary work in the neighboring islands.

We are now printing Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and

Song of Solomon, according to the LXX version, to form a volume by itself; and at the same time "Chrysostom on the Priesthood." In a few days I shall put to press, at one of the native presses, translations of four of the American Society's Tracts—"the Lottery"—"the Orphan"—"the Cross of Christ," and "Have you Need of a Friend." I am nearly free from the effects of the influenza, from which I have suffered so much this spring, and my family are generally well.

ISLAND OF CRETE.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM THE REV. GEORGE BENTON, DATED

La Canèe, Island of Crete, 20th April, 1837.

I am happy to say that our friends here consider the arrangements which we have entered into, and the conditions for a house, as the best that could possibly be made. Only one of our friends, a very good man, disapproved at first the course we contemplated. This gentleman is Mr. Bonnal, American Consul, appointed to the station by Commodore Elliot, in his visit here last summer. Of course he felt interested in our behalf. He has since told me, however, that considering the nature of our business, the arrangements were the very best. We may consider ourselves fortunate in having secured the house for four years. We have also made a contract for fitting it up, and are now turning our attention to preparations for commencing our labors.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Contributions received by the Treasurer of the Committee for Domestic Missions, from 15th August to 15th September, 1837.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Monthly offerings of St. Andrew's Church, Hopkinton, by the Rev. M. B. Chase, Rector, through F. H. Stimpson, Esq.	\$20 00— \$20 00
--	------------------

MASSACHUSETTS.

By the hands of F. H. Stimpson, Esq., Receiving Agent in Boston, viz., Sunday offerings of St. Stephen's Church, Pittsfield, through Edward A. Newton, Esq.	39 42
By the same hands, in a blank envelope, through Dr. J. V. C. Smith,	5 00
By the hands of the Rev. James Morse, D. D., Rector of St. Paul's Church, Newburyport, being part of a collection in that Church, at a meeting in aid of Missions on the evening of the 23d of August, 1837,	15 00— 59 42

RHODE-ISLAND.

Monthly Concert in Christ Church, Westerly, by the hands of the Rev. James Pratt, through F. H. Stimpson, Esq., to be appropriated to the diocese of Illinois, at the discretion of Bishop Chase,	20 00— 20 00
---	--------------

VERMONT.

From Trinity Church, Rutland, by the hands of the Rector, the Rev. John A. Hicks, for Domestic Missions,	20 00— 20 00
--	--------------

CONNECTICUT.

Offerings of St. John's Church, Waterbury, by the hands of the Rector, the Rev. J. Lyman Clark, for Domestic Missions,	58 00
By the hands of the Rev. Dr. Croswell, from the "offerings of the Church," Parish of Trinity Church, New-Haven, \$50; appropriated as follows, viz., to aid in building a Church at Crawfordsville, Indiana, subject to the order of C. Tyler, \$30; for Green Bay, \$7 25; for general purposes \$12 75,	50 00
From the Education and Missionary Society of Trinity Church, Newtown, by the hands of the Rev. L. C. Stratton, in aid of Missions in the diocese of Illinois,	5 00— 113 00

NEW-YORK.

Monthly offerings of St. Paul's Church, Syracuse, the first fruits of a plan of systematic charity just entered on, per the Rev. C. M. Butler, minister of the parish, for Domestic Missions,	8 25
Collection in St. George's Church, Newburgh, on Sunday morning the 20th August, 1837, after sermon by the Secretary and General Agent,	28 70
Collection in St. Anna's Church, Fishkill Landing, on Sunday afternoon, August 20, 1837, after sermon by the same,	34 05
Offerings of Trinity Church, New Rochelle, for the Domestic Mission fund, by the hands of the Rector, the Rev. Lawson Carter,	32 50
By the hands of the Rev. John Brown, Rector, to be added to the collection in St. George's Church, Newburgh, on Sunday morning, August 20th,	2 00
From Mr. R. Sterling, in redemption of his pledge given at a collection in St. Clement's Church, New-York, January 22d, 1837, and by accident not called for,	25 00
Collection in Christ Church, Poughkeepsie, on Sunday morning August 27, 1837, after a sermon by the Secretary and General Agent,	25 31
From C. Curtis, Esq., to be added to the collection in Christ Church, Hudson, on Sunday, August 6th, 1837,	5 00
From a Lady of Rochester, by the hands of Swords, Stanford & Co.	2 00
Collection in St. Paul's Church, Tompkinsville, on Sunday, September 3d, 1837,	18 86
By the hands of the Rev. Wm. M. Carmichael, Rector of St. George's Church, Hempstead, Long Island, being part of the monthly offerings of that Church,	13 09
From the Rev. P. A. Proal, Rector of Trinity Church, Utica, \$200, from the Christian offerings of that Church, appropriated as follows, viz., for Domestic Missions, \$100; for Foreign Missions, \$50, and for the Education and Missionary Society of the diocese of New-York, \$50,	100 00— 294 76

NEW-JERSEY.

From two Ladies of Paterson, for Domestic Missions,	5 00— 5 00
---	------------

PENNSYLVANIA.

By the hands of Thomas Robins, Esq., Receiving Agent in Philadelphia, viz., received from a Lady of Milton, for Domestic Missions, per Rev. J. C. Clay,	2 00
From the Rev. J. C. Clay, of Philadelphia, for Domestic Missions,	3 00
From Miss Forde, of Philadelphia, annual subscription 1837,	3 00
By the hands of the Rev. Isaac Smith, through Mr. L. Sherman, received from Mrs. Wood, of Mouncey, for the Domestic Mission Cause,	1 00— 9 00

MARYLAND.

By the hands of Thomas Robins, Esq., Philadelphia, received from Mrs. Henrietta M. Goldsborough, for Domestic Missions,	5 00— 5 00
---	------------

VIRGINIA.

By the hands of Thomas Robins, Esq., Receiving Agent in Philadelphia, received from Jane H. Keyes, Charlestown, for general purposes of the Board of Missions, - - 9 00— 9 00

SOUTH CAROLINA.

By the hands of Mr. Robert T. Howard, received from the Clarkson family of Charleston, \$160, appropriated as follows: from Mr. William Clarkson \$60, half for Foreign and half for Domestic Missions; from Mrs. Clarkson \$50, similarly distributed; from Mrs. Wilson \$50, to be used as the Secretary may think best, - - - 105 00— 105 00

OHIO.

Contribution of St. Paul's Church, Chillicothe, for the Church at Key West, by the hands of the Rev. Edward W. Peet, 15 00— 15 00

MISSISSIPPI.

By the hands of the Rev. John F. Fish, from two members of St. Paul's Church, Woodville, - - - 5 00— 5 00

MICHIGAN.

By the hands of C. C. Trowbridge, Esq., Receiving Agent in Detroit, being part of the collection made in St. Paul's Church, Detroit, and in St. Peter's Church, Tecumseh, \$170; less charged for expenses, \$5, - - - 165 00— 165 00

ILLINOIS.

From the Episcopal Society for weekly offerings of Fairfield, Adams County, for Domestic Missions, by the hands of Erastus A. Strong, Esq. - - - 25 00— 25 00

Total receipts, \$870 18

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Acting Treasurer of the Foreign Committee acknowledges the receipt of the following donations from 15th August to 15th September, 1837.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Remitted by Benjamin Howard, Esq., Boston, one half of monthly offerings of St. Andrew's Church, Hopkinton, 20 00— 20 00

MASSACHUSETTS.

Received by the hands of James Swords, Esq., collection in St. Paul's Church, Newburyport, on 23d August, by Rev. James Morse, D. D. 6 00
From Mr. John Edson, Bridgewater, - - - 5 00— 11 00

CONNECTICUT.

Received by the hands of the Rev. Dr. Milnor, from Misses A. Gilbert and Mary E. Edwards, teachers of a boarding and day school at New-Haven, obtained by the sale of small articles, sold by a society formed by young ladies in said school, for Greek Mission, - - - 35 62— 35 62

RHODE-ISLAND.

Remitted by Rev. J. A. Vaughan, Secretary and General Agent, viz:
By the hands of Rev. J. Bristed, of Bristol, from two young females, - - - 5 00
From Miss Jane Anthony, Treasurer of the young ladies' prayer circle of Grace Church, Providence, for China, 16 00
From Lieut. Abbot, of St. Mark's Church, Warren, - 5 00

From monthly Missionary Meeting, Pawtucket, E. Wilkin-	
son do. \$5, -	23 00
From a young lady at Bristol, by the hands of Rev. Mr.	
Peck, for Africa, -	1 00
By the hands of the Rev. Dr. Cutler, from a female in New-	
port, -	1 00
Monthly Concert Christ Church, Westerly, R. I., for Chi-	
na, \$20; Africa \$20, -	40 00
Sunday Scholars of said Church, for Schools in Africa, by	
Rev. J. Pratt, -	11 00
St. Mark's Church, Warren, by Rev. Geo. W. Hathaway,	3 50
St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, by do. -	1 50— 107 00

NEW-YORK.

Received monthly offerings of St. George's Church, Hemp-	
stead, L. I., per Rev. W. M. Carmichael, Rector, -	5 67
By the hands of Mr. G. F. Fox, Jr., from the teachers and	
scholars of the Church of the Ascension, N. Y., for the	
purpose of liberating Susan Thompson from bondage in	
Africa, in answer to the appeal made by Dr. Savage in her	
behalf, in the September number of the Spirit of Mis-	
sions, -	26 25— 31 92

PENNSYLVANIA.

From Thomas Robins, Esq., Agent at Philadelphia, from a	
member of St. Stephen's Church, Philadelphia, for Mrs.	
Hill's School, -	20 00
From Miss Forde, Philadelphia, her annual subscription, -	3 00— 23 00

VIRGINIA.

Received from Rev. C. W. Andrews, Millwood, Va. -	17 00— 17 00
---	--------------

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Received from a few members of Christ Church, Georgetown,	
for female education in Greece, \$5; for general purposes \$4,	9 00— 9 00

KENTUCKY.

Remitted by Thomas Robins, Esq., Philadelphia, from a family	
Missionary box at Lexington, Ky., for Mrs. Hill's school,	5 00— 5 00

MICHIGAN.

From C. C. Trowbridge, Esq., Detroit, for the African Mis-	
sion, from a female communicant of St. Paul's Church,	2 00— 2 00

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Received by the hands of James Swords, Esq., from monthly	
Missionary lectures, by the Clergy of Charleston, one	
fourth of \$83 10, -	20 77
From the Missionary Association of St. Philip's Church,	
Charleston, for general purposes, \$9 75; China, \$1 25;	
Africa, \$5, -	16 00
From Rev. Dr. Gadsden, Rector of St. Philip's Church,	
Charleston, one fourth of Church offerings, -	41 67
From William Dehon, Treasurer of St. Michael's Missionary	
Association, Charleston, one fourth of \$130, -	32 50
From Rev. Peter L. Shand, from Church offerings of Trinity	
Church, Columbia, for general purposes, -	25 26
For Africa, \$20 25; for China, \$3 56; Rev. Mr. Boone's Mis-	
sion, \$2 50; Greece, \$4 50, -	30 81
Received from the Ladies' Missionary Association of Beaufort	
for Greek Mission, by the hands of J. R. Walker, Esq. -	75 00— 242 01

MISSISSIPPI.

By the hands of the Rev. J. F. Fish, Missionary at Wood-	
ville and Pinckneyville, from Mrs. Palmer Smith of St.	
Paul's Church, Woodville, for Greek Mission, -	10 00— 10 00

Total of Acting Treasurer's Acknowledgments, \$513 55